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# NEWS NOTES

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES  
FOREIGN NATIONALITIES BRANCH

The following current news is circulated at once by reason of its timeliness. In conjunction with other and later intelligence the material may be used again in the longer-range studies of this Branch.

☐ Press Item

☐ Account of Oral Interview

☒ Confidential Report

Number N-193

9 February 1945

## AMERICAN ZIONISTS INTERCEDE WITH EGYPTIAN AUTHORITIES ON BEHALF OF MOYNE ASSASSINS

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PRESSURE continues for the amnesty of Ephraim Bet Tsouri and Eliahu Hakim, sentenced to death by an Egyptian court in Cairo 18 January for the assassination on 6 November of Lord Moyne, British Resident Minister in Cairo.\* Zionists, who immediately after the trial refrained from protest, leaving the field to Revisionist groups, are now joining the agitation for a reprieve.

A number of Orthodox rabbis connected with the Zionist movement addressed an appeal to King Farouk on 28 January. Early in February Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, leading Cleveland Reform Rabbi and until recently vice-chairman of the American Zionist Emergency Council, sent a cable to King Farouk of Egypt. Leading Conservative rabbis, connected with the Zionist Organization of America have also joined in the representations. Articles upholding the condemned and characterizing them as "martyrs" continue to appear in both the Yiddish and English-language Jewish press.

\* See "Jewish Reactions to the Assassination of Lord Moyne and the Death Sentence Against His Assassins," FN Number N-178 of 23 January 1945

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9 February 1945

Still the most active element in the campaign, however, is the Zionist-Revisionist group under the leadership of Rabbi Morris M. ~~Rose~~ and ~~Samuel Rosen~~. Their Central Committee has urged "flooding" the Egyptian Embassy with petitions on behalf of the condemned. This group also arranged a visit 25 January of Orthodox rabbis to Mahmoud Hassan, Minister of the Royal Government of Egypt in the United States. The American League for a Free Palestine, another Revisionist group, announced that the Indian leader Dr. Syud ~~Hossain~~ had joined the campaign and that Professor Abraham ~~Lehuda~~ of the New School for Social Research (New York) had appealed to the rector of the Alazhar (Islamic University in Cairo) to intercede with the Egyptian authorities.

Among others who have interceded by cable or petition on behalf of the youthful assassins are Arturo ~~Roscanini~~, Senator William ~~Langer~~ of North Dakota, House Majority Leader John W. ~~McCormack~~, Representative Andrew L. ~~Somers~~ of New York, Dean Alfange, Arthur ~~Szyk~~, Louis ~~Bromfield~~, Sigrid ~~Undset~~, and Karin ~~Michaelis~~.

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